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- To promote pharmacy practice research for the advancement of pharmacy profession.
- To enhance the competencies of practicing pharmacists.

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2. Dada OO, Odukoya OA, Taylor OO, Asoro I, Coker HAB, Ologun JT (2003). Toxicological Studies on Jubi Formular. A Nigerian Herbal Preparation, *West African Journal of Pharmacy* 17(1): 39-44.

#### Books

1. Cole MD, Caddy B. (1995). *The Analysis of Drugs of Abuse: An instruction manual*, 2nd edn. New York: Ellis Horwood.
2. Sanders PA. (1979). Aerosol packaging of pharmaceuticals. In: Banker GS, Rhodes CT, (Eds.), *Modern Pharmaceutics*. New York: Marcel Dekker, pp. 591-626.

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1. Consumers' Association. Patient information: what is the prognosis? Policy report 2003. Available at: [www.whichnet/campaigns/health/patient information/index.html](http://www.whichnet/campaigns/health/patient information/index.html). Accessed December 18, 2005.

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Unless indicated otherwise, galley proofs are sent to the address given for correspondence. It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that the galley proofs are thoroughly reviewed and returned without delay.

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## EDITORIAL

The goal of the West African Journal of Pharmacy (WAJP) is to publish research findings in pharmacy practice, pharmaceutical sciences and health research through the fostering of multi-disciplinary research and collaborations among pharmaceutical scientists, practicing pharmacists, pharmaceutical industries and the healthcare sector.

In this current issue, **FATOKUN** writes a letter to the editor on "Quality and safety of herbal medicines for universal health coverage" while **DENG** and **UDEANI** in their letter to the editor discuss "E-prescribing and dispensing in a universal healthcare system".

**AJALA** and **FAJOJU**, in a research work involving the ethanolic extract of celery (*Apium graveolense*) and bilirubin gallstones showed that the ethanolic extract was capable of dissolving bilirubin gallstones in vitro. This new area of research could potentially lead to the discovery of more gallstone dissolving agents with possible bilirubin gallstonedissolving capacity.

**LAWAL et al** carried out phytochemical screening and in vivo antidiabetic evaluation of 1:1 combination of the leaf extracts of *Heliotropium indicum* L. (Boraginaceae) and *Anthocleista djalensis* A. Chev. (Loganiaceae). Their findings show that the administration (singly) of the extracts of *Heliotropium indicum* (HI) and *Anthocleista djalensis* (AD) produced significant reduction in blood glucose and was safe. While the methanol leaf extract of HI and AD (in combination) also produced significant reduction in both blood glucose and serum phospholipid levels, however, it was found to be toxic.

**OYENIYI** and **YUSUF** evaluated the effects of process variables on physicochemical properties and in-vitro cytotoxic activities of 5-fluorouracil nanoparticles against squamous cell carcinoma (SCC). The two natural biodegradable polymers (Neem and Acacia) investigated were successfully used to synthesize 5 FU polymeric nanoparticles with significant cytotoxic action.

**OLAYIWOLA et al**, in a study of comparative efficacy and efficiency profile of some commercially available antacids in the Nigerian pharmaceutical market, revealed that six of the studied antacids passed the official test for effectiveness and efficiency, while the remaining four either failed one or both tests. The authors note that the situation calls for urgent drug quality test of the antacids on Nigerian market.

**FAMUREWA et al** presented the complementary and alternative medicine use among ambulatory diabetes patients in a Southwestern tertiary hospital in Nigeria. About 69% of the studied population used complementary and alternative medicine. Thus, healthcare practitioners should be open-minded about the use of alternative medicines so as to give adequate information to help patients make informed decision for the goal of achieving better therapeutic outcomes.

**AMAGON et al**, in a public health pharmacy related study of adherence to immunization schedule among children attending a secondary level hospital in Jos, Nigeria showed disparities between mean ages at receipt of all vaccine doses with recommended ages and a steady increase in drop-out between consecutive doses, with overall poor adherence to routine immunization schedules.

**ABIOLA et al**, in a study of knowledge, attitude and practice of antibiotic use among residents of a community in South-West Nigeria, revealed that majority of the participants had good knowledge of antibiotics, but a wide gap exists in their attitude towards and practice of antibiotic use. Hence, the need for a stricter regulation towards the purchase of antibiotics without a prescription in Nigeria.

In another research work carried out by **ABIOLA et al** on pharmaceutical waste management among community pharmacists in Lagos metropolis, South-western Nigeria- a cross-sectional study, the authors identified throwing into trash bin as the most reported method of disposal of pharmaceutical waste. Only 12.6% of the respondents identified 'Drug Take-back' as a method of pharmaceutical waste disposal for consumers. They thus opine that there is a need for routine training of community pharmacists on pharmaceutical waste management.

**LAWAL et al** deployed TLC and IR for the detection of sildenafil as an undeclared adulterant in some herbal aphrodisiac products marketed in Northwest Nigeria. The methods revealed that 16 out of 50 herbal aphrodisiac samples contained sildenafil. They conclude that the use of such products poses a serious threat to public safety.

**BAMIRO et al** formulated and evaluated the oral dissolving films of naproxen sodium from *Terminalia randii* gum. Findings showed that *Terminalia randii* gum has potential in naproxen oral disintegrating films formulation when combined with hydroxypropyl methylcellulose in specific ratios.

**SALAKO et al**, in an investigation of the quality assessment of fifteen brands of artemether-lumefantrine tablets in Lagos metropolis, Nigeria, confirmed that 53% of the brands of artemether-lumefantrine tablets failed the quality tests. They emphasize on the importance of continuous monitoring of the quality, safety and efficacy of drugs on the market in Nigeria.

**OGBEIDE et al** evaluated the pH, titratable acidity and viscosity of various brands of syrups from various pharmacy stores in Benin. Finding revealed that syrups investigated had high values of pH, titratable acidity and viscosity. YAHAYA et al, in a pharmaceutical technology research, designed solid self-emulsifying drug delivery system for artemether with improved physicochemical properties. The formulation was stable, showed excellent emulsification time of 6.0 s, had a mean globule size of 33.59 nm and PDI of 0.182. Direct incorporation of artemether-SEDDS into Aerosil® at a ratio of 2:1 w/w resulted in a dry powder with good flow according.

**ENWURU et al** carried out isolation and characterization of Podoviridae ParuNE1 bacteriophage against multi-drug resistant *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* CLI- 22. The authors found PauNE1 phage unique with broad host range activity. The phage exhibited strong bacteriolytic activity against biofilm forming multidrug resistant strains with no lytic effect on the heterogenous strains.

Also, in this edition, you will find the conference abstracts for the 32nd Annual General Meeting and Scientific Symposium of the West African Postgraduate College of Pharmacists with the theme "Universal Health Coverage: The Role of Digital and Collaborative Services" to be held in Accra, Ghana from Monday 23rd to Friday 27th March, 2020. The results of the Fellowship examination (2019) of the College are also published in this edition.

**Olufunsho Awodele**, MPH, Ph.D, D.Sc, FPCPharm  
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